

HOUSE BILL 155

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By: **Delegates Kaiser, Barkley, Boteler, Carr, DeBoy, Elmore, Glenn, Hixson, Huckler, James, Love, Manno, Montgomery, Robinson, and F. Turner**
Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2010
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Award – Qualifications**
3 **– Study Abroad Programs**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that an individual who qualifies for a Delegate Howard
5 P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Award remains qualified for the award if
6 the individual is accepted in a certain study abroad program under certain
7 circumstances; and generally relating to qualifications for the Delegate Howard
8 P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Award.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Education
11 Section 18–303
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 18–303.

18 (a) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, each recipient of a Delegate
19 Howard P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Award shall:

20 (1) **[Be] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS**
21 **SECTION, BE** accepted for admission in the regular undergraduate program at an
22 eligible institution or be enrolled in a 2–year associate degree program in which the
23 course work is acceptable for transfer credit for an accredited baccalaureate program
24 in an eligible institution;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) Be a resident of this State;

2 (3) Demonstrate to the Office a definite financial need; and

3 (4) Accept any other conditions attached to the award.

4 (b) Each recipient of a Guaranteed Access Grant shall:

5 (1) Have attained a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or
6 its equivalent at the end of the first semester of the senior year in high school and
7 have completed high school or, failing to do so, on the recommendation of the
8 recipient's high school principal, provide evidence satisfactory to the Office of
9 extenuating circumstances;

10 (2) Begin college within 1 year of completing high school or, failing to
11 do so, provide evidence satisfactory to the Office of extenuating circumstances;

12 (3) Be under the age of 22 years at the time of receiving the first
13 award;

14 (4) Have successfully completed a college preparatory program in high
15 school;

16 (5) Enroll in college as a full-time student;

17 (6) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, have an annual family
18 income below a poverty index determined by the Commission; and

19 (7) Satisfy any additional criteria the Commission may establish.

20 (c) To determine the annual family income eligibility of an applicant for a
21 Guaranteed Access Grant, the Office may not consider an amount received by the
22 applicant as an earned income credit under § 32 of the Internal Revenue Code.

23 (d) A student in grade 9 or grade 10 who applies and qualifies for a
24 Guaranteed Access Grant on the basis of financial need as established by the
25 Commission shall prequalify for a Guaranteed Access Grant to be used at the time of
26 enrollment in an institution of higher education by agreeing in writing, as a secondary
27 and undergraduate student, to:

28 (1) Satisfy the attendance policy of the applicable school;

29 (2) Refrain from substance abuse;

30 (3) Provide information required by the Commission or the State
31 Board of Education;

1 (4) Complete and file on a timely basis applications for federal student
2 aid for each year that the student plans to enroll in postsecondary education;

3 (5) Participate in the College Readiness Outreach Program
4 established in § 18-303.1 of this subtitle until the student graduates from high school
5 and matriculates at an institution of higher education; and

6 (6) Satisfy any other program requirements set by the Office, the
7 Commission, the State Board of Education, or the State Department of Education.

8 **(E) A STUDENT WHO QUALIFIES FOR EITHER A GUARANTEED ACCESS
9 GRANT OR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE GRANT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE AND IS
10 REGULARLY ENROLLED IN AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION SHALL CONTINUE TO BE
11 ELIGIBLE FOR THE GRANT IF:**

12 **(1) THE STUDENT IS ACCEPTED IN A STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM
13 FACILITATED BY AN INELIGIBLE INSTITUTION; AND**

14 **(2) THE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM LOCATION IS NOT OFFERED BY
15 ANY OTHER ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION IN THE STATE.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 July 1, 2010.